

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 05328 091020Z

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 5328

FOR EUR/RPM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, XG, PARM

SUBJ: CSCE: CBM'S TURKISH ISSUES

REF: USNATO 2625 AND ANKARA 5264

1. IN CONFORMITY WITH STATEMENTS IN NAC ON JULY 8 AND
IN ANKARA, TURKISH REP ON INSTRUCTIONS INTRODUCED
FOLLOWING TEXT CALLING FOR SUB-THRESHOLD
FOR AMPHIBIOUS AND AIRBORNE TROOPS IN CBM SUBCOMMITTEE
METTING ON JULY 8:

BEGIN QUOTE: IN THE SAME CONTEXT, FOR THE PURPOSE OF
NOTIFICATION OF COMBINED MANEUVERS, THE TERM "MAJOR"
WILL, HOWEVER, BE UNDERSTOOD TO MEAN THAT THIS LEVEL
IS REACHED WHENEVER TWO OR MORE BRIGADES OR REGIMENTS
(OR EQUIVALENT FORCES) OF AMPHIBIOUS OR AIRBORNE
TROOPS, SINGLY OR COMBINED, ARE INVOLVED IN THOSE
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 05328 091020Z

MANEUVERS. END QUOTE

2. TURKISH REP EXPLAINED IN CAUCUS IMMEDIATELY BEFORE CAUCUS THAT "TWO OR MORE BRIGADES" MEANS APPROXIMATELY 4,000 TROOPS.

3. TURKISH PROPOSAL DREW IMMEDIATE AND SUSTAINED ANGRY REACTION FROM MENDELEVICH (USSR) AND OTHER WARSAW PACT ALLIES, WHO CHARGED THAT NEW IDEA WAS A LAST-MINUTE EFFORT TO RAISE STAKES OF CONFERENCE. MENDELEVICH THREATENED TO WITHDRAW SOVIET CONCESSIONS ON MOVEMENTS AND OTHER ISSUES IF TURKISH PROPOSAL WAS NOT WITHDRAWN. ON OTHER HAND, ROMANIA, SWISS, AND NORWEGIAN REPS GAVE TEMPERED SUPPORT TO IDEA, ON ASSUMPTION PROPOSAL COULD BE REFINED.

4. IN SUBSEQUENT PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH SOVIETS, WE ADMITTED THAT TURKISH IDEA IS VIEWED BY OTHER ALLIES AS NON-NEGOTIABLE IN ITS PRESENT FORM. ON OTHER HAND, WE POINTED OUT THAT AMPHIBIOUS/AIRBORNE ISSUE IS LESS SENSITIVE POLITICALLY THAN AREA PROBLEM, AND SPECULATED THAT TURKS MIGHT JUST CONCEIVABLY BE WILLING TO MAKE FURTHER CONCESSIONS ON AREA IF US AND SOVIETS COULD ACCEPT AMPLIFICATION OF AMPHIBIOUS/AIRBORNE REFERENCES IN MANEUVERS TEXT. MENDELEVICH BLUSTERED THAT THIS WOULD AMOUNT TO BLACKMAIL, AND REPEATED VIEW THAT TURKS COULD SIMPLY STAY HOME INSTEAD OF GOING TO SUMMIT, BUT SOVIET ADVISERS LATER AGREED THAT CBM REGIME IN TURKEY IS CRITICAL FOR OTHER CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS (I.E., GREECE AND CYPRUS, AND THEIR NEIGHBORS, ETC.), AND SAID THEY WOULD REFLECT ON POSSIBILITY OF REFINEMENTS IN CBM TEXT ON AMPHIBIOUS/AIRBORNE MANEUVERS.

5. COMMENT: RE TURKISH PRESENTATION IN NAC, ALLIES HERE HAVE KNOWN FOR SOME TIME THAT TURKS HAD FALL-BACK AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT 150-KM ZONE IN ANATOLIA. SOVIETS WOULD PROBABLY NOT OBJECT TO SMALLER ZONE IN TURKEY, IF IT WOULD LEAD TO CONSENSUS AT CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, GREECE HAS REJECTED IDEA OF INEQUALITY OF ZONES IN TURKEY AND USSR, FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 05328 091020Z

AND OTHERS AT CONFERENCE WITH SIMILAR POTENTIAL CLAIMS TO "SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES" (SPAIN, YUGOSLAVIA, NORWAY AND OTHER NATO FLANK COUNTRIES, ETC.) CANNOT ACCEPT PRINCIPLE THAT TURKEY ALONE SHOULD RECEIVE SPECIAL TREATMENT, EXCEPT IN AREAS CLOSE TO ITS BORDERS WITH NON-PARTICIPATING STATES.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: IN EFFORT TO MOVE TOWARDS TURKS

ON AMPHIBIOUS/AIRBORNE ISSUE (AND AT SAME TIME TO
RESPOND TO STRONG PREFERENCE OF NEUTRALS AND MOST
ALLIES), REQUEST AUTHORITY TO INDICATE US CAN ACCEPT
PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF INDEPENDENT AMPHIBIOUS
AND AIRBORNE MANEUVERS IN EUROPE OVER THRESHOLD
OF 25,000. (SEE GENEVA 4295 AND 5152). WE WOULD
ONLY USE THIS AUTHORITY IF SOVIETS CAN MAKE SOME
CORRESPONDING MOVE TOWARDS TURKS ON AMPHIBIOUS/AIRBORNE
ELEMENTS IN COMBINED MANEUVERS, AND IF TURKS WILL
AGREE IN RETURN TO MODIFY THEIR POSITION ON AREA TO
THE POINT WHERE CONFERENCE CONSENSUS IS POSSIBLE.
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